on several branches on the south and west sides of the tree—the sides of best development—though even on these branches some twigs bore normal catkins. The abnormal catkins consisted chiefly of flowers with the deep cup-shaped receptacles of pistillate flowers with one pistil and one or two stamens, both pistil and stamens being functional. A few had perfect stamens but an aborted pistil, some a very small but apparently functional pistil. Near the tip of the catkins the flowers were very irregular with from four to six stamens, some with, some without a pistil. Scattered along the axis were ordinary pistillate flowers. Other catkins were predominately staminate. In these most of the flowers had the cup-shaped receptacles characteristic of pistillate flowers, but each with a number of stamens (4–6), and no pistil. Near the tip there was even greater irregularity than in the others. Around a terminal perfect flower were some staminate flowers with ten or more stamens and some stamens growing in the axils of smooth-edged scales. The figures show a few of the normal flowers, as well as several of the abnormal ones. The normal flowers were drawn from flowers of neighboring trees. Longitudinal sections of a normal pistillate flower and of one of the perfect ones are also shown. In the normal flower there was no trace of rudimentary stamens nor of bundle traces that might indicate their position. There is nothing to indicate that these perfect flowers show reversion to ancestral conditions, the explanation must be rather in some irregularity in the division of chromosomes. The tree had been struck by rolling stones and patches of bark knocked off, but the injury was no greater than on dozens of normal trees in the immediate vicinity.

YONKERS

NEWS ITEMS

At the annual meeting of the club held at the American Museum of Natural History on January 8, all the officers were re-elected for 1918. President Richards announces the same committees for 1918 as before with the addition of Mr. George T. Hastings to the Field Committee.